

# DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers

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## The Early Doughty—Master of Mysteries and Wonders

By Ross Craufurd



DIME NOVEL SKETCHES NO. 193

BRADY'S CHAMPION STORIES

Publisher: F. A. Brady, 26 Ann St., New York, N. Y. Issues: 19 (highest number seen advertised). Dates: 1870. Schedule of Issues: Semi-monthly. Size: 6x4 $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Pages: 98-100. Price: 10c. Illustrations: Hand stenciled colored pictorial cover. Contents: Frontier, sea and Revolutionary War stories.

## The Early Doughty—Master of Mysteries and Wonders

By Ross Craufurd

Unwittingly, I fell under the spell of Francis Worcester Doughty at the age of 12. In some fashion or other I had acquired a few copies of the small size Pluck and Luck and my chief pleasure was in reading the list of back numbers and savoring the titles. Among those I relished most and dreamed of some day possessing were such as "The Blue Door," "The Scarlet Shroud" and "The House with Three Windows." At the time I did not know that these stories were already more than 30 years old and were all from the pen of F. W. Doughty.

This knowledge did not come until 10 years later, when, through an advertisement by Ralph Adimari, I came into possession of a good part of Doughty's personal files of his own work.

On reading these stories, I found that my earlier instinct had not been wrong. Here were tales of mystery and wonders told in a highly individual style. The early Doughty loved writing, and his mind everflowed with plots. In fleshing them out, he was not afraid to linger on descriptions of scenes and characters that pleased him. Some of his touches are quite Dickensian in manner and humor.

But overall, the effects he created were unique. He was meticulous in establishing a locale, and detailed in describing a character's movements through city streets. Then, when the disappearances and ghosts and strange happenings occur, the total effect is surreal. One has the feeling of witnessing scenes in a nightmare world super-imposed upon reality.

His heroes are usually rash, brave, unbright young men who become the pawns in games played by omniscient and omni-present detectives and villains, with chance the deciding factor.

Doughty must have been fascinated with his New York—its streets, its buildings, its odd corners and what were then its outer areas. To him, everything around him was a potential setting for strange happenings. And in his stories, they did happen.

Not that he confined himself to the city. His stories of adventure in far, exotic places are truly imaginative with their trappings of lost civilizations and wonderful treasures.

With such stories as subject matter, his illustrators were truly inspired. The dramatic, poster sized front pages of Boys of New York and Young Men of America featuring his work must be high spots in any collection of American popular graphic art fortunate enough to contain them.

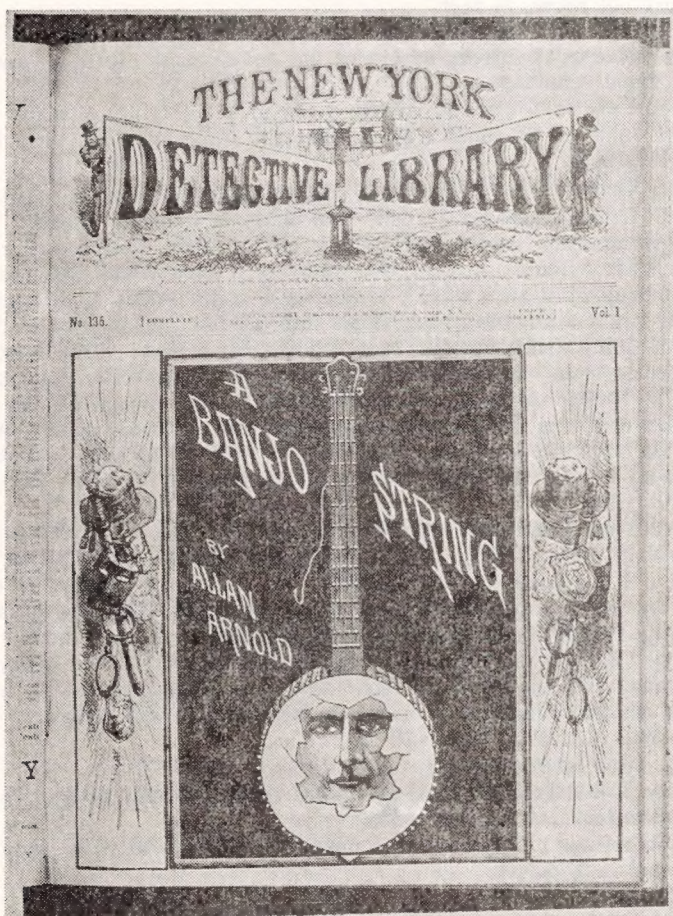
The first long story he wrote for Tousey is "The Ten Doctors; or, Twenty Years in Search of a Diamond." There is an echo of Monte Christo in the basic plot. But this durable "back to the world for vengeance" theme was also favored by other dime novelists, and quite recently turned up in a successful Mexican television series.

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In "The Ten Doctors," a young man is convicted of a murder that was never committed, and sentenced for life. Twenty years later he escapes from Sing Sing and, with nine other ex-convicts, forms a band of masked, cloaked avengers—the "Doctors." We find them digging up a grave on a dark Christmas morning in the churchyard of St. Boniface. They meet on a grounded canal boat hidden in the Jersey meadows. Then there is a scene at the gay French Ball in the Academy of Music. There is an abduction in Central Park. And there is also Finnegan's Roost. Let Doughty himself explain:

#### "Chapter IV Finnegan's Roost

Finnegan's Roost was haunted.

Every one said so, and what every one says must be true.

The neighbors on both sides of the way said so, the milkman swore to it, the letter-carrier confidently asserted it and old Biddy Quinn, who had lived on the block for years, stoutly averred that she had seen the ghost—an old man with a long white beard—with her own eyes.

And what was Finnegan's Roost?

Finnegan's Roost was a house.



A very old house, in fact.

It stood perched upon the top of a high rock, some sixty feet or more above the grade of the street, on one of the streets in the forties, between Second and Third Avenues . . . "

. . . and so, on for a full column more in Doughty's best style. It is in the secret vault of Finnegan's Roost that the great diamond lies, the object of so much search.

In "A Banjo String," Doughty creates and maintains a nightmare-like atmosphere from beginning to end. The start is innocent enough, with five youths playing their banjos and singing on the ferry that is bringing them home to Williamsburg. But on that ferry is a hack containing the brutally murdered body of a man who is clutching a banjo string in his dead hand. Later that night a masked figure steals into the room where two of the young men are sleeping and snaps the bass string from a banjo. The next day one of them is arrested—the victim of a gigantic plot. Just one year later he is still in the Tombs, awaiting a second trial. In the meantime his widowed mother has died and he is left with only one friend—Andy Fenn. And Andy himself has also lost his family and his job. With less than a dollar in his pocket, wet, hungry and cold, he enters the Holly Tree Inn. In Doughty's words:

" . . . To put it briefly—and brevity, says some old sayer of wise sayings, is the soul of wit—a Holly Tree Inn is a cheap restaurant started by well-meaning, but misguided persons, usually women, for the purpose of supplying the city wanderers for food, free from the seductive influence of all beverages stronger than the weakest of all weak coffee and tea. . .

In the "Boss Tweed" dining rooms, in Chatham Street, a greasy waiter, with a dirty white apron, which looks as though it has not known soap for a year, will thrust he head close into your face, as you, with a weary, nauseated stomach scan the bill of fare, with a

"Say, boss, what's yours?"

At the Holly Tree Inn you are asked what you will take, with kind inquiries as to the state of your soul.

At the former you get a plate piled with more food, such as it is, than you can eat in a month.

At the latter you receive the smallest and thinnest possible slice of bread, a piece of beefsteak the size of a trade dollar, which would serve admirably as a hinge for your trunk, a cup of alleged coffee, which by no possible chance could ever have encountered even one of the brown Java beans, with a tract thrown in for the good of your soul. . . "

From this unpromising visit to a Holly Tree Inn, a train of events is set in motion which leads to the saving of the victim's life. Along the way, the reader is entertained by a trial in the Court of General Sessions, a visit to a German beer garden on the Bowery, a fire in the hidden vault of the old Chrystie Street Methodist Church and an abduction from A. Shampansky's saloon.

Old King Brady was born on Nov. 4, 1885 in the pages of No. 154 of the New York Detective Library. At that time he was between 50 and 60 years old, with close cut grey hair and wearing the same white hat and marvellous blue frock coat so well known to readers of Secret Service some 15 years later.

This initial story was first called "Old King Brady, the Sleuth-Hound." In later listings of back numbers it becomes "Old King Brady, the Detective," due, no doubt, to legal pressures from George Munro who had gone to court to establish literary rights to the use of the word "sleuth."

The story itself deals with a murder in an office building on Broadway,





and it gives Doughty full scope in describing street scenes in lower Manhattan, a gambling house on the Bowery, the chase of the mysterious can-solder street fakir, a Democratic primary in the Tenth Ward Hotel, and more—much more.

\* \* \*

The pocketbook with \$5000 was there on the desk just before he turned his back, and when he turned again, a moment later, it was gone. The money was not his own, and its loss meant ruin and disgrace. Before it was recovered, the hero of "The Haunted Belfry; or, the Mystery of the Old Church Tower" found himself at a ball in Professor Forgey's Dancing Academy; tricked into the secret corridors above the school; out on the roof next to the belfry of an abandoned church watching a white haired figure in Revolutionary dress pulling madly at the bell-rope although no peals could be heard; back into the corridors and through a deserted dark house until shrieks, screams and heavy pursuing footsteps drove him into the corridors yet again. When it was all over, there was this classic explanation from Detective Doxey:

"Doxey was the ghost—he frankly confessed it.

When Charley, taking advantage of a favorable moment, asked an explanation, Doxey only put his fingers to his lips and smiled.

'Look here,' he said, 'business is business. If I was to tell all my secrets I wouldn't have any. All I've got to say is that your remarkable experiences in that house were all due to imagination. . .'

One can almost hear Doughty's laughter.

\* \* \*

The mysterious man in black was a haunter of funerals, and familiar with the receiving vaults of cemeteries. And he was instrumental in the strange disappearance and apparent murder of a young medical student. His trail led the student's friends to a midnight vigil in a New York Bay Cemetery and then on to a wild chase by rowboat across the harbor to the deserted old mansion at the water's edge of Bay Ridge. His story is told in "The Scarlet Shroud; or, The Fate of the Five"—the "five" being a ring of resurrectionists

\* \* \*

supplying cadavers to the medical colleges of three cities.

Imagine one of the Nicobar Islands in the Indian Ocean; a vast cave on the island and in the cave 220 life sized carved stone elephants, a gigantic stone idol, a hidden treasure of over \$20,000,000 in ancient gold coins, add a beached wreck with a crew of 20 skeletons; and a gang of Malay pirates. For a villain, a former pirate masquerading as a missionary; shake well to complicate the lives of the shipwrecked heroes. Can you imagine it? Well, Doughty did, and he called it "Two Old Coins; or, Found in the Elephant Cave."

\* \* \*

One is tempted to continue indefinitely with these sketchings of Doughty's stories. However, their purpose is simply to give some meaning to the following chronological list of Doughty's work from 1884 through 1890—his most creative period. The list itself is complete except for possibly five or six stories appearing in NYDL during the years 1888-1889, and which so far I have been unable to locate.

The reader will note that all the stories are pseudonymously, in accordance with Frank Tousey's custom of scattering house pen-names indiscriminately among his authors. With very few exceptions, no author had the exclusive use of a pen-name. Even "A New York Detective," which was almost Doughty's own, was used on other people's work.

#### Abbreviations used:

BNY—Boys of New York

GW—Golden Weekly

MM—Mystery Magazine

PL—Pluck & Luck

NYDL—New York Detective Library

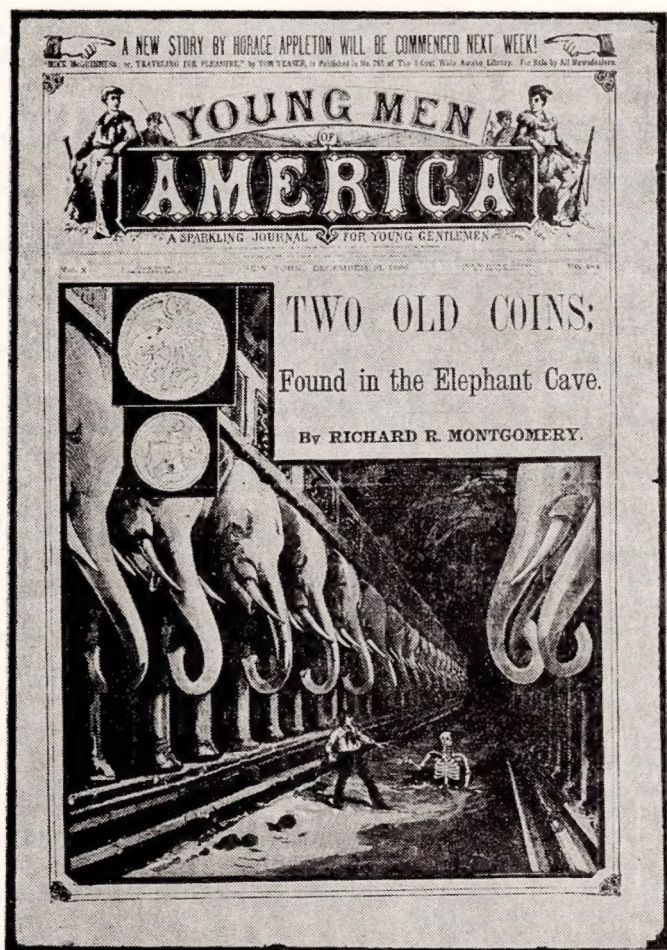
YMA—Young Men of America

All published by Frank Tousey.

#### Chronological Listing of F. W. Doughty's Works 1884

- June 19—The Ten Doctors; or, Twenty Years in Search of a Diamond, by Allan Arnold. 354-366 YMA. (323 NYDL, 38 MM, June 1, 1919).  
 Aug. 28—The Last Man; or, The House at the End of the Block, by Police Sergeant Mallory. 102 NYDL.  
 Oct. 25—The Case of Dr. Tanzy; or, The Mystery of Bulfinch Row, by Wm. S. Hall. 110 NYDL.  
 Dec. 11—The Carleton House Mystery; or, The Cellar of Death, by a N. Y. Detective. 117 NYDL.





1885

- March 12—The Stone Man; or, The Mystery of Dead Man's Creek, by Wm. S. Hall. 118 NYDL.
- May 14—The Gold Beater's Secret; or, The Matter of the Mayberry Diamonds, by Old Cap Lee. 128 NYDL.
- July 2—A Banjo String; or, A Detective's Terrible Mistake, by Allan Arnold. 135 NYDL. (42 MM, Aug. 1, 1919. Retitled: A Detective's Mistake, by Gilbert Mackey.)
- July 23—Found in a Bottle; or, The Secret of the Iron Door, by Ex-Chief of Police Mansing. 138 NYDL.
- Aug. 6—The Old Tin Box; or, The Twistleton Affair, by a N. Y. Detective. 140 NYDL.
- Aug. 22—The Young Monte Christo; or, Back to the World for Vengeance, by Kit Clyde. 523-531 BNY. (697 PL; 1482 PL.)
- Oct. 1—The Journalist Detective; or, On the Trail by Accident, by Tom Fox (Philadelphia Detective). 148 NYDL.
- Nov. 14—Bats in the Wall; or, The Mystery of Trinity Church Yard, by P. T. Raymond. 535-547 BNY. (502 NYDL.)

- Nov. 14—Old King Brady, the Sleuth-Hound, by A. N. Y. Detective. 154 NYDL.  
Dec. 5—Old King Brady's Triumph, by a New York Detective. 157 NYDL.

## 1886

- Jan. 9—Old King Brady's Great Reward; or, the Haselhurst Secret, by a N. Y. Detective. 162 NYDL.  
Feb. 18—The Haunted Mill on the Marsh, by Percy B. St. John. 440-448 YMA. (~~148 PL~~; 951 PL.)  
Feb. 29—Shoving the Queer; or, Old King Brady on the Scent of the Counterfeits, by a N. Y. Detective. 168 NYDL.  
March 6—Monte, the French Detective and His Two New York Boy Pupils, by Police Capt. Howard. 551-561 BNY. (268 NYDL.)  
March 20—A Drop of Ink; or, Hidden Beneath a Blot, by Paul Braddon. 553-562 BNY. (336 NYDL. 37 MM May 15, 1919.)  
April 24—Old King Brady in Australia; by a N. Y. Detective. 177 NYDL.  
June 5—Monte, the French Detective in Chicago, by Police Capt. Howard. 564-573 BNY. (263 NYDL.)  
July 3—Old King Brady and the Scotland Yard Detective, by a N. Y. Detective. 187 NYDL.  
July 10—The Man in the Black Cloak; or, The Mystery of the John Street Jewels, by P. T. Raymond. 569-576 BNY. (362 NYDL.)  
July 15—The Haunted Mansion. A Tale of Mystery, by Percy B. St. John. 462-467 YMA. (~~146 PL~~; 919 PL. 1588 PL.)  
July 31—Two Flights of Stairs; or, Old King Brady and the Missing Will, by a N. Y. Detective. 191 NYDL.  
Aug. 30—The Three Doors; or, Half a Million in Gold, by D. W. Stevens. 469-477 YMA. (~~144 PL~~; 923 PL; 1592 PL.)  
Sept. 18—A Broken Pen; or, The Unfinished Letter, by R. T. Emmett. 579-586 BNY.  
Oct. 2—Old King Brady and the Mystery of the Bath, by a N. Y. Detective. 200 NYDL.  
Oct. 16—The Haunted Lake. A Strange Story. By J. G. Bradley. 583-590 BNY. (~~141 PL~~; 944 PL.)  
Oct. 30—The Two Twos; or, A Concealed Picture. By Robert Maynard. 585-592 BNY. (519 NYDL.)  
Nov. 23—The Scarlet Shroud; or, The Fate of the Five, by Jas. D. Montague. 481-490 YMA. (~~120 PL~~; 926 PL; 1595 PL.)  
Nov. 26—The Last Stroke; or, Old King Brady and the Broken Bell. By a N. Y. Detective. 208 NYDL.  
Dec. 16—Two Old Coins; or, Found in the Elephant Cave, by Richard R. Montgomery. 484-491 YMA. (~~120 PL~~; 927 PL; 1596 PL.)  
Dec. 25—The Night Before Christmas; or, The Mystery of Bedloe's Island, by a N. Y. Detective. 212 NYDL.

## 1887

- Jan. 18—An Old Book Cover; or, The Secret of Page 99, by Frank Forrest. 488-495 YMA. (~~122 PL~~; 929 PL; 1598 PL.)  
Jan. 29—The Schoolboy Explorers; or, Among the Ruins of Yucatan, by Kit Clyde. 598-605 BNY. (~~26 PL~~; 880 PL.)  
Feb. 12—The Gray House on the Rock; or, The Ghosts of Ballentyne Hall. A True Historical Story of the Late War. By J. G. Bradley. 600-607 BNY. (~~205 PL~~; 1096 PL.)  
Feb. 26—A Meerschmum Pipe; or, Old King Brady and the Yonkers Mystery, by a New York Detective. 221 NYDL.



- March 10—The Blue Door. A Romance of Mystery, by Jas. D. Montague. 496-504 YMA. (~~120~~ PL; 934 PL; 1603 PL.)
- April 9—A Sheet of Blotting Paper; or, The Fortunes of a Young Inventor, by P. T. Raymond. 608-615 BNY. (~~145~~ PL; 947 PL; 49 MM, Nov. 15, 1919.)
- April 16—Robbed of a Million; or, Old King Brady and the Iron Box, by a N. Y. Detective. 228 NYDL.
- May 14—The Mystery of a Black Box, by Police Capt. Howard. 613-621 BNY. (516 NYDL.)
- May 19—Through an Unknown Land; or, The Boy Canoeists of the Quanza. 506-514 YMA. (~~129~~ PL; 933 PL; 1602 PL.)
- July 7—The 13th of October, 1863, by Alexander Douglas. 513-521 YMA. (~~128~~ PL; 932 PL; 1601 PL.)
- July 9—Across the Continent with a Circus; or, The Twin Riders of the Ring, by Robert Maynard. 621-628 BNY. (~~311~~ PL; 1112 PL.)
- July 16—The Yellow Rose, by a N. Y. Detective. 241 NYDL.
- July 23—"I". A Story of Strange Adventure. By Gaston Garne. 623-629 BNY. (~~217~~ PL; 1018 PL.)
- July 30—Old King Brady in Ireland. By a N. Y. Detective. 243 NYDL.
- Aug. 20—Old Charleworth's Chest; or, The Mill on Monckton Marsh. By Allan Arnold. 246 NYDL.
- Sept. 17—The House with Three Windows. By P. T. Raymond. 631-630 BNY. (~~157~~ PL; 960 PL.)
- Oct. 1—3000 Years Old; or, The Lost Gold Mine of the Hatcheppee Hills. By Gaston Garne. 633-640 BNY. (~~150~~ PL; 962 PL.)
- Oct. 6—The Two Schools at Oakdale; or, The Rival Students of Corrina Lake; By Frank Forrest. 526-539 YMA. (~~126~~ PL; 939 PL.)
- Nov. 22—The Haunted Belfry; or, The Mystery of the Old Church Tower. By J. G. Bradley. 639-646 BNY. (~~156~~ PL; 959 PL.)

## 1888

- Jan. 19—The Smartest Boy in Philadelphia; or, Dick Rollins Fight for a Living. By Ralph Morton. 541-549 YMA. (~~524~~ PL; 1325 PL.)
- March 15—Over The Line; or, The Rich and Poor Boys of the Riverdale Schools. By Hal Standish. 549-558 YMA. (~~308~~ PL; 1199 PL.)
- March 17—The Yellow Diamond; or, Groping in the Dark. A Very Mysterious Story. By Police Captain Howard. 657-664 BNY. (~~161~~ PL; 964 PL.)
- March 24—Old King Brady and the Telephone Mystery. By a N. Y. Detective. 277 NYDL.
- April 14—The Other Man; or, A Hard Case to Solve. By a N. Y. Detective. 280 NYDL.
- May 5—The Red Leather Bag. A Weird Story of Land and Sea. By Police Captain Howard. 664-671 BNY. (325 NYDL; ~~170~~ PL; 972 PL.)
- July 19—Across the Pacific in a Dory; or, Two Boys' Trip to China. By Hal Standish. 567-574 YMA. (~~608~~ PL; 1469 PL.)
- Aug. 25—"XXX"; or, Old King Brady and an East River Mystery. By a New York Detective. 680-687 BNY.
- Sept. 1—The Mystery of a Mummy; or, Old King Brady and the Cartwright Case. By a N. Y. Detective. 300 NYDL.
- Sept. 15—The Cavern of Fire; or, The Thrilling Adventures of Professor Harcastle and Jack Merton, Which Followed the Discovery of the Strange Manuscript in the Iron Chest. By Allyn Draper. 683-690 BNY. (~~164~~ PL; 966 PL.)
- Oct. 18—The Dandy of the School; or, The Boys of Bay Cliff. By Frank For-

rest. 580-587 YMA. (~~957 PL~~; 1158 PL.)

Nov. 24—A Detective at Sixteen; or, Working with Old King Brady. By a N. Y. Detective. 693-700 BNY.

### 1889

Jan. 12—The S. P. Q. R.; or, Old King Brady and the Mystery of the Palisades. By a N. Y. Detective. 319 NYDL.

March 2—Old King Brady, the Detective and the Messenger Boy Who Found a Million. By a N. Y. Detective. 707-714 BNY.

April 11—Drawer 99; or a Detective's Six Year's Search. By Tom Fox, Philadelphia Detective. 605-614 YMA. .

April 14—A Bag of Shot; or, Old King Brady Out West. By a N. Y. Detective. 332 NYDL.

May 2—A Sunken Fleet; or, Working for Millions. By Horace Appleton. 608-616 YMA.

May 4—The Haunted Churchyard; or, Old King Brady, the Detective, and the Mystery of the Iron Vault. 706-727 BNY. (371 NYDL.)

July 20—A Pile of Bricks; or, Old King Brady and the Box of Rubies. By a N. Y. Detective. 345 NYDL.

July 4—The Yellow Man. A Strange Detective Story. By Tom Fox, Philadelphia Detective. 617-624 YMA.

Aug. 17—Two Boys' Trip to an Unknown Planet. By Albert J. Booth. 731-738 BNY. (~~177 PL~~; 980 PL.)

Sept. 21—99 99th Street; or, The House Without a Door. A Story of the thrilling Adventures of Old King Brady, the Detective, in His First Case. By a New York Detective. 736-749 BNY. (424 NYDL.)

Sept. 22—The Belt of Gold; or, Old King Brady in Peru. By a New York Detective. 354 NYDL.

Oct. 20—Old King Brady and the James Boys. By a New York Detective. 359 NYDL.

Oct. 27—Nix; or, The Boy Without a Mind. By A. F. Hill. 360 NYDL.

Nov. 14—Bob Baxter, the Young Stamp Collector; or, A Thousand Dollars from One. By Ralph Morton. 1-8 GW.

Dec. 14—Where?; or, Washed Into an Unknown World. By Robert Maynard. 748-755 BNY. (~~182 PL~~; 983 PL.)

### 1890

Feb. 11—Sentenced for Life; or, Old King Brady's Search for a Ton of Gold. By a New York Detective. 752-759 BNY. (417 NYDL.)

Feb. 15—The James Boys in New York; or, Fighting Old King Brady. By a New York Detective. 377 NYDL.

March 8—The House with 30 Steps; or, Old King Brady and the Great Pearl Street Poisoning Case. By a New York Detective. 760-767 BNY. (417 NYDL.)

March 14—A Piece of Blotting Paper; or, Old King Brady in Philadelphia. By a New York Detective. 381 NYDL.

March 20—The Man in Mourning; or, a Dark Night's Work. By Tom Fox, (Philadelphia Detective). 19-26 GW.

April 26—The James Boys in Boston; or, Old King Brady and the Car of Gold. By a New York Detective. 387 NYDL.

April 26—Eighteen Diamond Eyes; or, The Nine-Headed Idol of Ceylon. By Howard Devere. 767-774 BNY. (~~76 PL~~; 895 PL.)

May 15—A Thousand Feet Deep; or, One Year Beneath the Sea. By Ralph Morton. 27-35 GW.



- May 24—Chased Over Three Continents; or, Old King Brady Around the World.  
By a New York Detective. 771-778 BNY. (452 NYDL.)
- May 31—The Murder of Dr. Burdell; or, Old King Brady and the Bond Street  
Mystery. By a New York Detective. 392 NYDL.
- June 29—We. By Robert Maynard. 775-782 BNY. (201 PL; 1002 PL.)
- July 3—The Mystery of Bell Buoy No. 10. By Tom Fox (Philadelphia Detective.  
ive.) 34-41 GW.
- Aug. 9—A Million in Diamonds; or, Old King Brady in Africa. By a New York  
Detective. 402 NYDL.
- Sept. 6—The Mystic Three; or The Secret of the Old House on the Rocks. By  
a New York Detective. 406 NYDL.
- Aug. 16—Q; or, Old King Brady Working on the Great Morgan Mystery. By  
a New York Detective. 783-790 BNY. (452 NYDL.)
- Sept. 18—The Seven Masks; or, The Secret of the Man in Brown. By Tom Fox  
(Philadelphia Detective.) 45-50 GW.
- Sept. 20—Old King Brady in Siberia; or, The Secret of the Wooden God. By  
a New York Detective. 408 NYDL.
- Oct. 10—Old King Brady and "Billy the Kid"; or, The Great Detective's Chase.  
By a New York Detective. 411 NYDL.
- Nov. 15—The Terrible Mystery of Car No. 206; or, Old King Brady and the  
Man of Gold. By a New York Detective. 796-811 BNY. (460 NYDL.)
- Nov. 27—Over the Dead Line; or, The Secret of the Top Floor. By Tom Fox  
(Philadelphia Detective). 55-62 GW.
- Dec. 13—Old King Brady and the Ford Boys. By a New York Detective. 420  
NYDL.

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## THE NEWSBOYS' LODGING HOUSE: IMPETUS FOR AN IMMORTAL

By Jack Bales

(Note: The following paper was delivered at the Sixth National Convention of the Popular Culture Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 24-26, 1976)

### Acknowledgment

I gratefully acknowledge the assistance of many individuals who have aided me in the preparation of this paper. These include: Dick Bowerman, Forrest Campbell, Ralph D. Gardner, Max Goldberg, Irene Garman, Carl Hartmann, Paul Miller, Stanley Pachon, Denis Rogers, Gary Scharnhorst, Dick Seddon, Keith Thompson, and Gilbert K. Westgard II. Also Gibson McCabe of *Newsweek*; Joan Buck, Director of Public Relations for the Children's Aid Society, New York; and Matthew Lutes of Henry, Illinois.

\* \* \*

"'You told me,' said Frank, 'that there was a place where you could get lodging for five cents. Where's that?'"

'It's the News-boys' Lodgin' House, on Fulton Street,' said Dick, 'up over the Sun office. It's a good place. I don't know what us boys would do without it.'"

—Horatio Alger, Jr., *Ragged Dick*, 1867

\* \* \*

With the publication of the above work, American author Horatio Alger, Jr. commenced a lengthy association with the Newsboys' Lodging House. Designed in 1854 for the homeless waifs of New York City whose livelihood depended on hawking newspapers, blacking shoes, or "smashing baggage" (carrying luggage), this establishment significantly curtailed the ubiquitous juvenile vagrancy and delinquency that permeated the thoroughfares of nineteenth century New York.

The quotation from *Ragged Dick* illustrates Alger's cognizance of the existence of the Newsboys' Lodging House prior to the appearance of this work; however, his first visit was not until Charles Loring Brace, founder of the boys' home and its parent organization, the Children's Aid Society, read *Ragged Dick* and invited the author to tour the lodge. The place enthralled Alger, for he recognized that here was an abundance of source material that would betoken authenticity and realism in his novels concerning street and tenement life in New York City. As is noted in Alger's biographical sketch in Grace Williamson Edes' *Annals of the Harvard Class of 1852*, published in 1922 by the University Press in Cambridge:

[In New York, Alger] also became increasingly absorbed in studying the habits and customs of street Arabs. His genial manner, ready sympathy, and generous aid made him beloved by all the ragged urchins to whom he soon became a familiar and favorite figure, as he sauntered along the docks and through their especial haunts. One of his protégés once said, "Mr. Alger could raise a regiment of boys in New York alone who would fight for him to the death."

Although Charles Loring Brace included a brief twelve year history of the Newsboys' Lodging House in his book, *Short Sermons to Newsboys* (New York: Scribner, 1866), Alger collectors bemoan the fact that only a scattering of material is available concerning this unique New York City institution which influenced the writing career of one of America's best selling authors. Hence, the purpose of this paper.





Largely because of the hundreds of thousands of immigrants who flocked to New York City during the middle 1800's, nineteenth century New Yorkers were confronted with the dilemma of coping with the onslaught of juvenile crime and vagrancy that infested the city. Altruistic citizens sought to combat the rampant delinquency and poverty, but there was no protective legislation or compulsory education, and the existing asylums and almshouses were primarily for adults; thus, the charitable efforts produced few tangible results. However, in January, 1853, Charles Loring Brace—a humanitarian determined to devote his life to the aiding of children—met with twelve other public spirited men to form the Children's Aid Society, an organization which would first ameliorate youngsters' physical conditions and later seek to improve their habits and moral characters.<sup>1</sup>

The earliest type of assistance offered by the Society was the sending of friendless children to homes out West, for Brace steadfastly maintained that a normal family in a healthy environment was of profound beneficence to the vagrant child. Another type of reform involved the formation of industrial schools. The Society discovered that many girls, because of their threadbare clothes and evident penury, were ashamed to attend New York's public schools. Therefore, the Children's Aid Society formed its own establishments

in which girls were given not only basic educational instruction, but were taught trade skills such as sewing or knitting, and were provided with food and clothing.

But Charles Loring Brace had no intention of permitting his lofty ideas and ambitions to terminate here. During the winter of 1853-54, while he was Secretary and Treasurer of the Children's Aid Society, he observed numerous indigent urchins—mostly newsboys and bootblacks—sleeping in the begrimed alleys and doorways of New York's streets. Some shivered in boxes, others huddled together beneath the stairways of the New York Sun offices, and a fortunate few savored the ecstasies of an imperturbable rest atop some sparse warm gratings.

Though all these boys were sharpened by the privations which confronted them through this forced existence on the streets of a metropolis, Brace averred that they were not incorrigible as so many New Yorkers disparagingly asserted. Admittedly, as most of the juveniles had no homes, many of them became lawless drunks or adventurers. However, Brace believed that the auspices of the Children's Aid Society could stem the proclivities of the delinquent boys, and he resolved to establish a lodging house for them. He laid the plan before the directors of the Society, it was approved, and the Newsboys' Lodging House was formally adopted by the board.

However, two lurking dilemmas still existed. One was that a person was needed for the position of superintendent of the lodge. But as Brace wrote years later: "Providentially at this time, I chanced upon one of those men who are perhaps peculiar to America—a skillful mechanic, self-educated, of much natural tact, with an unbounded pity for the weak and miserable, and a good deal of sternness toward the lazy and shiftless, and who had been long at work among the children of the Sunday Schools—Mr. C. [Christian] C. Tracy."

But finding a competent supervisor was not as wearisome as locating the lodge itself, for understandably but unfortunately, no one wished to let his her property be overrun by a phalanx of gregarious newsboys. At length Tracy espied a grimy loft at the top of the Sun building at the southwest corner of Fulton and Nassau streets. The editor of the Sun, Moses W. Beach, began his long record of kindness to the Children's Aid Society by granting Tracy the use of the loft for a newsboys' lodging house.

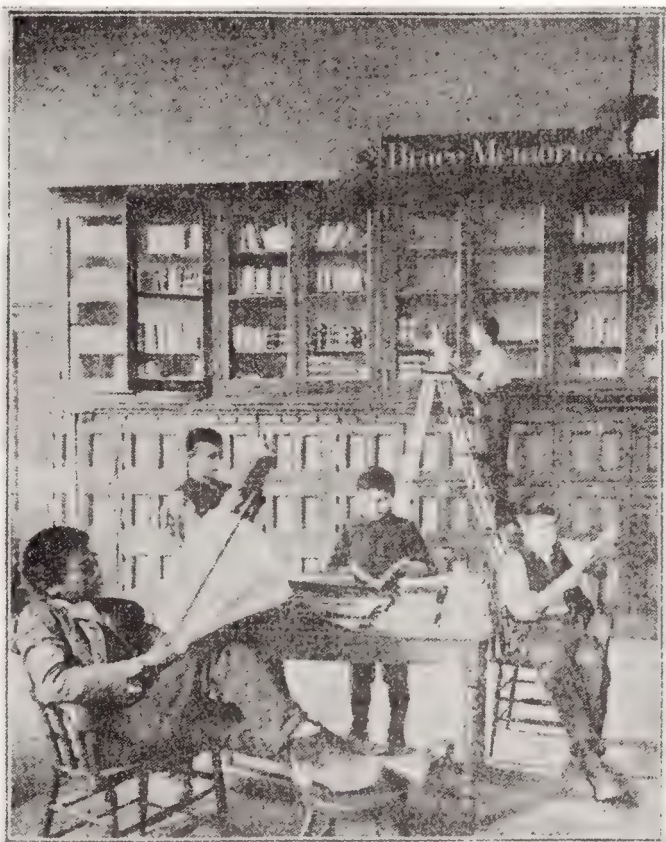
Tracy reconstructed the loft into a schoolroom, bedroom, office, and bathroom; and in a few weeks, at a cost of about \$1,000, the lodge was complete with accommodations for seventy-five boys. Notices were placed in the New York newspapers, and Tracy sought out some of the city's leading newsboys, for they always controlled bands of ready followers.

Its initial evening of operation was Saturday, March 18, 1854. A motley lot of about fifty boys showed up—including some who sauntered in simply to create a disturbance. Superintendent Tracy detailed to all of them the purpose of the Newsboys' Lodging House—that he and members of the Children's Aid Society wanted to prevent them from growing up vagrants, and that they wished to save them from exposure to the weather and consequent diseases.

But Tracy swiftly added that the boys were not objects of charity. Each one was a lodger in the hotel, and each had to pay six cents every night for a bed. By this procedure, it was hoped that the boys would acquire initial feelings of self-respect and responsibility and that they would thereby prize the lodge the more because they would be supporting its maintenance and operation.

After this speech, the boys cheered, and one named Mickety exhibited his confidence in the plan by paying a week's rent in advance, consequently be-





coming the first newsboy to enter his name in the register of the Newsboys' Lodging House. The troublemakers stalked out in disgust, while the boys who stayed reveled in the thought of luxuriating in a bath and a warm bed.<sup>3</sup>

The lodging house soon proved to be popular with the boys of the city, and adults who had been watching its development also approved. The following is from the May 28, 1854, issue of the *New York Dispatch*:

On Wednesday last, we visited the apartments recently fitted up in the Sun Buildings as lodging rooms for newsboys, and from what we saw and heard while there, we are well satisfied that the "Children's Aid Society," throughout (its) useful career, (has) thus far, never hit upon a more beneficial or philanthropic idea than the founding of such an institution as the one in question.

... our readers will admit that any institution having for its object the bringing together of these boys for the double purpose of ministering to their physical wants, and surrounding them with good influences, must be a commendable one. The lodging room is spacious, well ventilated, and at present contains beds for fifty boys, although a much larger number can be accommodated. The floors are well scrubbed, and everything betokens the most scrupulous cleanliness and neatness.

When Christian Tracy possessed the boys' confidence and trust, he began to teach them. They learned the Lord's Prayer and the meaning of the Golden

Rule. The superintendent discovered that their principal vices were gambling and wasting money on cheap amusements. Some industrious boys daily earned three to five dollars. Other boys took in seventy-five cents a day, yet all was squandered on the theater, cards, dice, games with pennies, and lottery tickets, with the boys remaining ragged, tattered, and poor. To counteract these habits, Tracy introduced games which could be played without money, such as backgammon and checkers. And to assist them in saving their earnings, he devised the "Newsboys' Bank," which is discussed in the above **New York Dispatch** article:

But what particularly attracted our observation was a Savings Bank which the managers have fixed up for the accommodation of the boys. This is a stout table containing separate box departments, numbered from 1 up to 110. The numbers are upon the surface of the table, and directly over each department, the money being dropped into an aperture accompanying each number. The bottom of the table is protected by sheet iron, and the top is too thick to be easily cut into. . . This Savings Bank we look upon as a most valuable contrivance, and one which will materially aid such boys as wish to form habits of thrift.

Gradually but noticeably, the influences of Christian Tracy and the Newsboys' Lodging House yielded positive alterations in the juveniles' actions and attitudes, though it should be remembered that as there were always so many new street boys, it was oftentimes difficult to see a state of overall improvement. This latter fact notwithstanding, **Sun** editor Moses Beach penned a letter to Christian Tracy on February 23, 1860, observing that the fighting among the newsboys as they clamored for their papers at newspaper offices had ceased and that young boys now could sell papers without being molested by older oness. Beach concluded by affirming, "If these changes are not all due to the Lodging House, I believe that by far the greater part of them can be traced directly to that as the cause."<sup>4</sup>

Christian C. Tracy retained his position as superintendent of the Newsboys' Lodging House until 1856. That year the Children's Aid Society began to employ him as its western agent in charge of the homeless children whom the Society transferred to western families. During his necessary and repeated absences, the number of boys who frequented the lodge had dwindled, and the Society felt that a new director should be hired; thus, Mr. C. C. Wiegand replaced Tracy as superintendent. Like Tracy, Wiegand was an extroverted individual who loved his job, and he systematically searched New York City's docks and markets for boys who could benefit from the lodging house's services.

In 1858, the superintendent left the lodge for California to accept a post in the Mint, and Mr. Charles O'Connor, who had served in the Crimean Army, was appointed superintendent with his wife becoming the house matron. Under their zealous management, the Newsboys' Lodging House enjoyed a heretofore unparalleled prosperity as it boasted annual increases in the number of juveniles it sheltered. For example, in 1857, 800 different boys availed themselves of the lodge; in 1858, the number surged to 3,000; and in 1870, 8,835 had slept in the home!<sup>5</sup>

Author Horatio Alger, Jr. weaves his friend Charles O'Connor into the plots of several of his volumes that feature the persevering newsboys, boot-blacks, and baggage smashers of New York City. Probably the most notable example is *Julius; Or, The Street Boy Out West* (1871), which is a tribute to the Children's Aid Society's now defunct program of sending children westward. Newsboys' Lodging House Superintendent O'Connor plays a role in it



as the overseer of Julius and his friends on their journey to Brookville, Wisconsin. Philanthropist Charles Loring Brace is briefly mentioned in the book's preface, and Alger lauds the Children's Aid Society in this section as "an admirable association, whose efficient work in redeeming and saving to society the young waifs of the city streets cannot be overestimated."

As the primary sources of historical data concerning the Sun Newsboys' Lodging House are newspaper articles, Alger devotees are grateful for the descriptive passages that occasionally appear in the writer's works. One can obtain exceptionally vivid pictures of the lodge's various rooms by perusing Chapter XII of *Mark, The Match Boy* (1869) and Chapter IX of *Ben, The Luggage Boy* (1870). These are titled respectively, "The Newsboys' Lodging House," and "Scenes at the Newsboys Lodging House."

In 1868, the lodge moved to 49 and 51 Park Place. Four years later, the Children's Aid Society purchased the Shakespeare Hotel on the corner of Duane, William, and New Chambers Streets, and commenced renovating it as a permanent lodging house for New York street boys. The building was formally dedicated in 1874 to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the home, and a graphic description of it appears in a lengthy article from the March 27, 1874, *New York Times*:

The building is admirably suited for the purpose which it is designed to serve. The basements and first story will be let for business purposes, which will contribute in some measure to render the establishment self-supporting. On the second floor is the newsboys' dining room; the third story contains the schoolroom, or, as it is sometimes called, the "audience room," to which the boys are first admitted when they enter the building; the fourth and fifth floors are devoted to dormitories; and the sixth is turned to the purposes of a well-fitted gymnasium.

Although this lodge is undoubtedly the most widely known of the three homes for newsboys, it is singular that Horatio Alger, Jr. never wrote much about it, especially since during the 1870's he had not yet even approached the apex of his literary career. In my research I have gleaned from Alger's works only one reference to this Newsboys' Lodging House. In Chapter II of *A Rolling Stone* (1894), Alger narrates, "Wren followed his young guide, who now seemed like an old friend, to the big building on New Chambers Street, . . ."

But the lack of publicity granted by Alger (at least in his books) to this third lodge in no way impeded the influx of the thousands of street Arabs whose only home was this six story edifice. With these expansive quarters, more boys not only could be accommodated than before, but diverse special events could be arranged for them. Universal delight was accorded the celebratory dinners that were held annually in the Newsboys' Lodging House. A city official or honored guest usually addressed the throng at these affairs. New York Governor Alfred E. Smith—a favorite among the boys—often was such a speaker.

But as affectionately regarded as the lodge was by the juveniles of New York, the structure ultimately outgrew its usefulness, and in 1942 the Children's Aid Society sold it. An article entitled, "Newsboy Home to Be Occupied by Coast Guard; 200 to Move in Tomorrow at 90 Year Old Source of Horatio Alger Stories," appearing in the January 12, 1943, *New York Herald Tribune*, reports its demise:

Brace Memorial Home for Newsboys, at 244 William Street, where for the last ninety years thousands of homeless boys who came to New York seeking jobs or adventure found refuge until they were able to pro-

vide for themselves, will be taken over officially tomorrow by the Coast Guard for use as a reception center. . .

The building was acquired by the Coast Guard several weeks ago and contracts were let for extensive interior renovations. . .

The oldtime newsboy passed many years ago, but the society continued to care for friendless boys. The name, Newsboys' Home, was never dropped, however, and the boys who lived there celebrated the anniversary of Alger's birthday each Jan. 13. During the depression years the society was called upon to provide shelter for thousands of boys who could find no employment.

The society announced that it would carry on its service to homeless boys in other centers.

As Alger wrote little concerning the William Street Lodge, my learning that his birthday anniversary was celebrated annually by the boys in the home renders considerable credence to my premise that the noted author's works were inspired—at least to some degree—by his periodic visits to this lodging house. Obviously, the title reference to the '90 Year Old Source of Horatio Alger Stories" lends further corroboration.

The building on Duane, William, and New Chambers Streets was demolished in 1963.<sup>6</sup> Although the social significance of the Newsboys' Lodging House in American culture may seem overdramatized, numerous primary sources substantiate the thesis that the lodge—throughout its eighty-nine year career—WAS instrumental in checking juvenile vagrancy in a teeming populous city. Furthermore, though I readily agree that it is nonsensical to assert that New York City street gamins were morally uplifted upon shuffling through the lodge's portals, the institution and its staff did provide them with nourishing meals, respites from the asperity of New York weather, benign attention, and even tutelage. And in supplying these necessities to unfortunate youths, its purpose as envisaged by Charles Loring Brace in 1854 was more than adequately fulfilled.

## NOTES

1. Annette Riley Fry, *The Children's Migration*, "reprinted by permission from *American Heritage* (December, 1974)," (New York: Children's Aid Society, 1974), pp. 2-3.

See also Robert Ernst, *Immigrant Life in New York City, 1825-1863* (Port Washington, N. Y.: Ira J. Friedman, Inc., 1965), p. 59.

2. Charles Loring Brace, *Short Sermons to Newsboys* (New York: Scribner, 1866), p. 20.

3. Children's Aid Society, *The Crusade for Children: A Review of Child Life in New York During 75 Years, 1853-1928* (New York: Children's Aid Society, 1928), p. 19.

See also Mrs. Helen Campbell, "New York Newsboys—Who They Are, Where They Come From, and How They Live—The Waifs and Strays of a Great City," in *Darkness and Daylight; Or Lights and Shadows of New York Life* (Hartford: Hartford Pub. Co., 1895, c1891), pp. 139-148.

4. *Seventh Annual Report of the Children's Aid Society* (New York: Children's Aid Society, 1860), p. 62.

5. Charles Loring Brace, *The Dangerous Classes of New York, and Twenty Years' Work Among Them*, 3rd ed. (New York: Wynkoop & Hallenback, 1880, c1872), p. 109.

6. Forrest Campbell to Jack Bales, a letter in the author's possession, dated at Fairhope, Alabama, October 31, 1974.



## UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA HAS AMASSED FINE DIME NOVEL COLLECTION

In a relatively short time, the University of South Florida at Tampa, Florida, has amassed one of the finest collections of colored-cover dime novels extant. I stress colored-covers, since the collection contains very few Beadles and other black and white weeklies.

The start was the acquisition of the Hudson Collection of 3000 plus novels. There were no Tip Top Weeklies in this group, since Mr. Hudson decided to keep his complete Merriwell set.

However within a short time, Mr. Hudson was able to obtain about 900 Tip Top and New Tip Tops for the library. The missing issues are in the low numbers, of course.

The novels are in the providence of the Special Collections Section of the University of South Florida Library. Mr. Jay Dobkin, director of the Special Collections discovered that the Tampa City Library had approximately 2500 dime novels buried in their archives. After a bit of negotiation he was able to obtain this group.

And now comes the incredible part. It was as if the Tampa Library dime novels were deliberately selected to complement the Hudson Collection. When the cataloguing was complete, there were only about a dozen duplicates.

So, the University of South Florida Library has between six and seven thousand novels. Included are complete, or nearly complete runs of many of the scarce series such as James Boys Weekly, Jesse James Stories, Frank Reade Weekly, Red Raven, etc., etc.

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## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. Were all Tom Swifts issued in the familiar tan pictorial format? Ed LeBlanc.

A. The first thirty-five Tom Swifts were published in the familiar tan format. Tom Swift's Ocean Airport, TV Detective and Planet Stone were only published in the atrocious orange format. George Holmes.

Q. Could anyone tell me when and how many "Value Book" Algiers were published? Louis Bodnar, Jr.

A. Ralph Smith writes to say that there were only 5 Value Book Algiers published and that they were on the newsstands in New England during 1956.

---

## DIME NOVEL COLLECTOR'S BOOKSHELF

TOWNSHIP 34. A History with Digressions of an Adirondack Township in Hamilton County in the State of New York, by Harold K. Hochschild. Evidently privately published in 1952 in New York. Chapter 10 contains a well-documented biography of Edward Z. C. Judson (Ned Buntline) with many photographs of Ned and some of his wives. This book is exceedingly rare and was brought to my attention by Jack Dizer.

GHOST OF THE HARDY BOYS, by Leslie McFarlane, The Two Continents Publishing Group, 30 East 42nd St., New York, N. Y. 10017, \$8.95. Mr. McFarlane was a writer for the Stratemeyer Syndicate and gives a good view of the writing of the Hardy Boys.

## RECENTLY PUBLISHED ARTICLES

### CONCERNING DIME NOVELS, BOYS BOOKS, ETC.

HORATIO ALGER NEVER HAD SO GOOD, by Harvey Spector. Article in local Philadelphia newspaper concerning Owen Cobb and his excellent cloth bound book collection.

THE GREAT BOOK WAR: EDWARD STRATEMEYER AND THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, 1910-1930, by Peter A. Soderbergh. Article appearing in a late issue of New Jersey History. Good article on the Edward Stratemeyer syndicate books and the rival boys books issued under the auspices of the Boy Scouts of America. (Courtesy Jack Dizer.)

THE GREAT HARDY BOYS' WHODUNIT, by Ed Zuckerman. Article appearing in the September 9, 1976 issue of ROLLING STONE. Unusually good article on the Hardy Boys Series though there are some errors and omissions in their publication history. Many fine illustrations. (Courtesy Jack Dizer.)

#### NEW MEMBERS

- 372 J. Dan Williams, 9571 Ravensworth Drive, Houston, Texas 77031  
 373 Timothy Mahoney, 14665 Washington Ave. #68, San Leandro, CA 94578

#### NEW ADDRESSES

- 367 Don Hutchison, 6 South Drive, Toronto, Ont., Canada M4W 1R1  
 63 Harry K. Hudson, Route 3 Box 57E, Inverness, Fla. 32650  
 229 Jack Raskin, 87 Cerenzia Blvd., Elmont, N. Y. 11003  
 252 Victor E. Wangner, 9 Midland Ave., Montclair, N. J. 07042

## FOR SALE

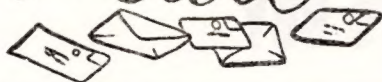
- Old Sleuth Weekly #1. good condition, minor mending, \$3.00  
 Old Sleuth Weekly. VG to Ex cond. \$2.00 each. Nos. 3, 4, 5, 8, 28.  
 Old Sleuth Weekly, good cond., some have minor mending. \$1.50 each. Nos. 10, 13, 18, 20, 23, 26, 27, 29, 30.  
 Wild West Weekly #5. Good but spine slightly rolled, \$2.00.  
     #39, 88, 149. Average cond. \$1.50 each.  
     #452, 521, 563, 605, 608, 610, 611, 636. Good to VG. \$1.25 each.  
 Fame and Fortune Weekly. Good, but minor defects or minor mending. \$1.25 ea.  
     #74, 81, 167, 180, 201, 210, 214, 217, 223, 236, 299.  
 Fame and Fortune #44. Fair cond., stamp on cover. \$1.00.  
 Western Weekly. Good cond. \$2.50 each. #34, 39, 40, 43, 45, 46, 51, 53, 54, 57, 61, 62, 64, 66, 68, 69, 74.  
 Western Weekly, minor defects, tears in spine, rolled spine, etc. \$1.25 each. Nos. 40, 41, 45, 58, 59, 64, 65, 66, 73.  
 Bowery Boy Library, VG to Ex. \$2.00 each. Nos. 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 19, 22, 53, 55, 56, 91, 95, 96, 97, 98.  
 Bowery Boy Library. Fair to Good, minor mending, covers loose on some. \$1.50 each. Nos. 15, 18, 52, 62, 69, 89, 91, 92, 95, 96, 97.

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. Post paid.

Edward T. LeBlanc, 87 School St., Fall River, Mass. 02720



# In the Mail



Dear Eddie:

I want to tell you about an experience I had last winter. It concerns Ken Daggett of Gardiner, Maine, one of the real old time members of the Brotherhood.

One day last winter Ken came over to my home with a box of boys books to trade. One of the books I traded him was a "4 books in one" valume. Three or four days later he came back with some more trading material. I noticed he had this particular book with him in his box. As we sat drinking coffee he picked out the book and asked me if I had ever read it. I told him I hadn't as I had the same four books individually in the regular series. He said that he read the first three stories and they were so good that he started to read the fourth one. He then opened the book to the fourth story and after a few pages he showed me an old two-dollar bill in the book, he turned a page and there was another two-dollar bill, another page a third two-dollar bill, another page and there was a one-dollar silver certificate. In all there were three two-dollar bills and five one-dollar silver certificates. I had had the book for a long time and couldn't remember where I got it. I'm sure it was from some book store as I had never traded for one of these. Anyway Ken told me that I had just built a house and was under heavy expense that I could use the money more than he could. You don't run into instances like this nowadays, and neither do you run into a man like Ken Daggett.

Maurice Owen, Litchfield, Maine

Dear Ed:

I am helping Mrs. Moore sell Leo's collection and what a job. I'm disposing of early boys books, thousands of them. I will appreciate receiving want lists from members who are interested. Among the items for sale are a two-volume set of *The House of Beadle & Adams* by Johannsen, \$35.00 plus postage for the set. Complete set of thick book *Frank and Dick Merriwell* except No. 72. All in nice condition. Various Medal Burt L. Standish and Merriwell Series editions. Will sell group for \$250 plus postage. There are many hundreds of *Algers*, from Loring to cheap editions. All nice copies. Jack Schorr, 853 So. Lemon St., Anaheim, Calif. 93805.

## WANTED

Pulp magazines of all types wanted for my personal collection: Weird, Strange, Horror, Terror, Detective, Science Fiction, Mystery, Adventure, Super Heroes and many others.

Please indicate condition and price wanted.

Joe Goggin, 6202 Greeley Blvd., Springfield, Va.

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Mint Winston Library Algers

Stoddard—The Young Financier

## Dave Kanarr

1032 14th St.

Bellingham, Wash. 98225

# WANTED

- A. Tip Top Weeklies
- B. Leo Edwards—Inferior Decorators, Hidden Dwarf, Lost Fortune, Cockeyed Ghost.
- C. Red Cover Hardy Boys.

**JACK McCORMAC**

98 Crestwood, Clemson, S. C. 29631

## TIP TOPS WANTED

1, 7, 42, 47, 53, 54, 57, 64, 67, 69, 70, 72, 73, 75, 76, 77, 85, 90, 122, 128, 488, 647, 750, 844, 847. New TT 5, 27. Tip Top Semi-monthlies 1915, Wide Awake 12/10/15 to 4/10/16.

**ROBERT McDOWELL**

1024 Kings Avenue  
Jacksonville, Florida 32207

Back numbers Reckless Ralph's Dime Novel Roundup (quite a few reprints, can't be helped). Don't have the complete set of No. 1 to 237 inclusive, but almost, lacking only a few numbers. 10c each or \$21.00 postpaid. Have at least 230 numbers or more. Also two indexes, 1 Pioneer and Scouts of the Old West, Birthday number, War Library list and Dime Novel Catalog.

**Ralph F. Cummings**

161 Pleasant St., So. Grafton, Mass.  
01560

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Total distribution	375	377
Office use, left over, etc.	175	173
Return from news agents	0	0
Total	550	550

I certify that the statements made by  
me above are correct and complete.

Edward T. LeBlanc



## FOR SALE

### ALGER, HORATIO, JR.

Adrift in New York. Hurst, brown cover with colored pasted-on, boy with red knapsack with rural scene in background. Good	3.00
Adrift in the City, Porter & Coates, 1st Ed. Shaken cond., shows a lot of wear	5.00
Ragged Dick, Loring, not first edition, but address is 319 Washington St. showing it is an early edition. No ads, shaken cond., shows a lot of wear	10.00
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### APPLETON, VICTOR

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### ARUNDEL, LOUIS

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### BARNUM, VANCE

Joe Strong, the Boy Fire Eater. Whitman. Badly shaken	.50
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### BRADEN, JAMES A.

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### BRUCE, GEORGE

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### BURLEY, ANDREW S., Major

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10 per cent discount on net sales of over \$10.

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Material relating to newsboys of New York City and/or the Newsboys' Lodging House (also called Brace Memorial Newsboys' Home.

## **WISH TO PURCHASE**

**A Voice From the Newsboys**, printed anonymously by John Morrow, 1860.

**The Dangerous Classes of New York**, by Charles Loring Brace. New York: Wynkoop & Hallenback, 1872 or 1880 editions. DO NOT WANT 1967 REPRINT EDITION.

**Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly**, April, 1895.

**Harper's Weekly**, May 18, 1867.

I am also interested in buying or borrowing annual reports of the Children's Aid Society of New York City.

Please write before sending items as I have much information already.

**WILL REIMBURSE POSTAGE.**

Jack Bales  
Editor, **Newsboy**  
Horatio Alger Society  
1214 W. College Ave.  
Jacksonville, Ill. 62650